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March 25, 2003

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communication**  
**MB Docket Nos. 02-277, 01-235, 96-197, 01-317, and 00-244**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that on March 24, 2003, George Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, Inc., John Feore of this office, and I met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin and his media legal advisor Catherine C. Bohigian, to discuss Media General, Inc.'s concern over any FCC attempt to craft a single rule to address ownership of various types of media outlets; the deregulatory purpose of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; the FCC staff's consideration of various ways of attempting to measure diversity, such as a quantification and weighting of "voices"; the type of media outlets that would have their ownership regulated under a single unitary metric; the inability of a single rule to assess accurately the role of national and local media in an individual single market; the disadvantageous effect of a single rule on convergence efforts in small to medium markets; applicability of such a rule to television station owners who seek to acquire newspapers in their markets; and Media General's motion to bifurcate and repeal the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule that was filed on March 11, 2003.

**As** required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for each of the above-referenced dockets.

Very truly yours,

  
M. Anne Swanson

cc by telecopy:

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin  
Catherine C. Bohigian, Esquire

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